

(d) the extent to which it is likely to meet the demand of foreign exchange which goes out of country as a result of advertisement given by the Indian manufacturers for their products on Star TV Channels after implementation of the above scheme?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) Yes, Sir. It has been allowed w.e.f. March, 1994.

(b) The telecast of advertisements including that of foreign products on Doordarshan is governed by the Code for Commercial Advertisements on Doordarshan. The telecast fee is charged on the basis of Commercial Rate Card which is updated from time to time.

(c) Payments are received in Indian Rupee only.

(d) Does not arise.

Implementation of Recommendations of Kelkar Committee

*374. SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH :

SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have examined the recommendations of the Kelkar Committee;

(b) if so, the details of the recommendations alongwith the decision taken by the Government on each of the recommendations, with particular reference to the recommendation regarding fleet planning for Indian Airlines; and

(c) if not, the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken by the Government for implementation of the recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Kelkar Committee was set up to make a comprehensive examination of the reasons for losses of Indian Airlines and to formulate a turn around strategy.

The Committee after examination, concluded that Indian Airlines, which was a profitable organisation till 1988-89 started incurring losses for reasons beyond its control, the three main reasons being the grounding of the A-320 fleet for a prolonged period, the merger of Vayudoot with Indian Airlines and its operations in uneconomic sectors over prescribed limits.

It was in this context that the Committee recommended a turn around strategy. The important recommendations of the Kelkar Committee relate to :-

(i) Financial restructuring, which includes capital injection of Rs. 922 crores in the form of

compensation, subordinated loan, equity, and contribution by Indian Airlines and its employees.

(ii) Fleet Planning.

(iii) Route Rationalisation.

(iv) Organisational Restructuring.

(v) Human Resource Management.

The Kelkar Committee has recommended that the capital injection would start giving returns to Government on its contribution from the year 1999-2000. It has concluded that the turn-around package should be considered and adopted early and in totality.

As this turn-around strategy involves a large amount of financial contribution, the matter has been taken up with the Ministry of Finance and Planning Commission to expedite implementation.

[English]

Import of Steel

*375. SHRI T. GOPAL KRISHNA :

SHRI NITISH BHARDWAJ :

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity of Steel imported during each of the last two years and current financial year, so far; country-wise;

(b) the sector in which the imported Steel is being used;

(c) details of domestic production of Steel at present; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to stop the import of Steel?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA) : (a) The quantity of Steel imported during each of the last two years and current financial year (April-August, 1997), country-wise is given in the enclosed statement.

(b) Sectors for which the Steel is being imported include Cold Rolling Units, Auto/Cycle industry, Container industry, Galvanising units, Engineering industry, Electrical industry, Re-rolling industry, Heavy Industry, etc.

(c) The total production of finished Steel during current year upto February, 1997 is estimated to be 20.4 million tonnes comprising about 10.2 million tonnes each of flat and non-flat products.

(d) As per the existing policy, import of Steel is freely allowed. The producers of Steel are constantly orienting their production to meet the market needs. Modernisation and expansion of Steel plants of SAIL has been taken up towards this objective. Since 1991, Government has also adopted various policy measures